

Downtown News

Los Gatos Streetscape Project

December 2004/January 2005

Update on Downtown Public Works Projects

Following is a list of activities to expect this year and the next two years that will provide better public facilities for residents and visitors while upgrading the aged downtown infrastructure (streets, sidewalks and underground systems). Several small projects were recently completed, while the large-scale Downtown Streetscape Project is on a one-year hiatus, to restart next year in 2005.

Upcoming New Project

- **San Jose Water Company-Pipeline Replacement Project:** SJWC recently informed the Town of their need to replace the 100+ year old pipeline under Santa Cruz Ave. The Town is working with SJWC to minimize disruptions. The project will occur in March and/or April, 2005 for a period of time yet to be determined. The outcome will be improved water service. *FAQ's about this project are on the back of this sheet.*

Current Projects & Events

- **Way Finding – Sign Project:** This project will standardize the roadway signs in the downtown area, and will improve directional signage to parking. Installation of the new signs is anticipated in January, 2005, in advance of the Santa Cruz Avenue Paving Project.
- **Sewer Lateral Inspection:** To determine the condition of existing sewer laterals on Santa Cruz Avenue, West Valley Sanitation District will inspect the lines by inserting a camera in the existing clean-outs located in the sidewalks adjacent to buildings. This work is underway.

Future Downtown Projects

- **2005 Santa Cruz Avenue Paving:** At the October 4th Town Council meeting, Council decided to have this road paved as quickly as possible to reduce impacts to downtown businesses and residents. This will require closing the roadway for **four (4) weeks, from July 11th to August 5th, 2005**, between Main and Highway 9. The work will be conducted six days a week, Monday through Saturdays, from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., taking advantage of as much summer daylight time as possible. The Town will continue to seek input from the community to minimize the impacts of this project.
- **2006 Main Street Streetscape & Paving:** In 2006, Main Street will be upgraded with new sidewalks and street repaving, which will conclude the Downtown Streetscape Project. The Town will continue to seek input on this project, and keep the community updated as the project planning progresses.
- **E-Mail Project Updates:** To receive downtown project updates electronically, please send a request to: www.streetscape@losgatosca.gov ; your e-mail will only be used to notify you of project updates.
- **What's New E-mail Service:** Keep abreast of issues and events in the Town by signing up to receive updates from the Town's website: www.losgatosca.gov/new/



For more information concerning these projects, please contact:

John E. Curtis, Director, Parks & Public Works, at (408) 399-5770 or jcurtis@losgatosca.gov

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FAQs

San Jose Water Company's Pipeline Replacement For N. Santa Cruz Avenue (between Main & Highway 9)

12-14-04

San Jose Water Company (SJWC) recently informed the Town of their need to replace the underground waterline on N. Santa Cruz Ave., between Main St. and Highway 9. Although the Town had asked SJWC several times over the past few years if they needed to do this work on Santa Cruz Ave., SJWC only recently made this determination. **As SJWC's planning and design stage progresses, this FAQ sheet will be updated.**

Why does the water line need to be replaced? The waterline pipes are over 100 years old and due to the age, is prone to leakage and potentially breaking up under construction equipment. There have been occasional leaks in the past, where SJWC has come in and repaired (most recently on East Main at College). Additionally, there is not a sufficient number of functioning water valves along the line. If SJWC leaves the existing line in place and we proceed with street reconstruction planned next summer (2005), sections of the line could break. A pipeline break could occur during the construction or afterwards, and will be very disruptive, causing a great deal of inconvenience to everyone and delaying the paving project while clean-up and repairs are conducted. If the line breaks after paving is complete, it will mean cutting into a newly paved roadway.

What is the benefit for the Town? We will have much improved water distribution system in the downtown area along with enhanced fire protection service for merchants and properties along this section of Santa Cruz Ave.

When will the work be done? The water line will be replaced by SJWC during March/April 2005 before the Santa Cruz Avenue paving project for a period of time yet to be determined. Some work will be done at night and early morning, in an effort to minimize any road closures and other inconveniences to merchants. Details will be updated once the final design is completed.

How will the work be done? A new trench will be dug next to the old line. After placing the new water line and testing it to ensure it operates properly and is free of bacteria, new lateral connections to each property will be completed.

Will the road be closed? No. All attempts will be made to keep 2-way traffic available and flowing. At certain areas it will be necessary to allow one lane of traffic only. Some areas of work will be conducted early morning or night to avoid high-traffic times. Specific details will be developed once the design of the project is completed.

How will the project affect parking? All parking lots will be open for use. Some street parking on N. Santa Cruz Ave. will be unavailable during construction. We will work with SJWC to mitigate this loss of parking.

Water Service Disruption: SJWC will notify businesses in advance, and coordinate their work with businesses to determine the least disruption to businesses.

Who to Contact For More Information: SJWC will provide staff contacts once their project is underway. Town staff is available to answer questions at (408) 399-5770. Information will also be updated on the Town's website, under "What's New" at www.losgatosca.gov/new/